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For Immediate Release

**NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK and
TODDLER IMMUNIZATION MONTH THEME
“It’s not Magic, It’s Immunizations”**

April 24–April 30, 2005 has been proclaimed National Infant Immunization Week and May is Toddler Immunization Month. This year’s theme **“It’s not Magic, It’s Immunizations”** highlights the accomplishments achieved with immunizations in the past and present. With heightened awareness about dangerous childhood diseases, it is important to remember routine childhood immunizations are one of the best ways to keep children safe from vaccine preventable diseases.

We want to celebrate the success over the years fighting polio and our low measles rate. The last case of polio on the United States occurred in 1979, and the disease now occurs in a few countries in Africa and Asia. Currently most measles cases in the United States have been brought from other countries. In California only six cases of measles were reported between January - June 2004. In San Bernardino County one adult case of measles was reported in 2001. The last report of a measles cases among children in San Bernardino County was in 1997. The dramatic reductions in these and other vaccine preventable diseases would not have been possible without the continued diligence of medical providers giving timely immunizations. We want to continue our

efforts to eliminate measles and childhood diseases such as whooping cough, and pneumococcal disease. Parents get your children immunized, on time, every time.

Parents can make sure their children are up-to-date with their immunizations by going to the county clinics or by calling (800) 722-4794. The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health Immunization Program operates a computerized immunization registry (VaxTrack), if a parent loses their child's immunization record there is a good chance that the registry has the missing information. This prevents unneeded immunizations and saves parents the time and cost of re-immunization. Now is the time to get your child up-to-date with all needed shots! For more information call the Immunization Program at

1-800-722-4794.

The Immunization Program sponsors immunization clinics throughout the county. Parents can celebrate **"It's not Magic. Its Immunizations"** and bring your children in now to get needed vaccines and have their records checked for other possible missing shots! Cost is \$10.00 per child but no child is turned away if they cannot pay. Call

1-800-722-4794 for the nearest clinic.